

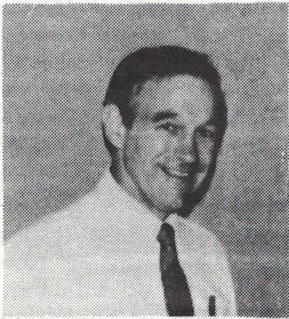
California Libertarian News

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California

Editor: Sarah E. Foster, (213) 259-9580

March 1988

Paul/Marrou Campaigns LPC CONVENTION WRAP-UP



Ron Paul

SAN DIEGO: It was a time for celebration Presidents Weekend, when California Libertarians gathered at the Kona Kai Hotel for the annual Convention. Both our top-of-the-ticket candidates were scheduled as banquet speakers, but they were present throughout the four-day affair. Ron Paul had taken advantage of his trip to do a some California campaigning in the San Francisco Bay area and Los Angeles before heading for San Diego (story page 4).

Convention coordinator Pat Wright reports over-all attendance was very good, and a profit of several thousand dollars was made. But attendance was sparse for the floor discussions, with most delegates preferring to devote their time to the workshops and seminars. In any case, only a few changes were suggested or made to the Platform or By-laws.

As in Seattle, the prevailing mood was one of cautious optimism. There's a great opportunity for us this year if we take advantage of it. We listened to Ron Paul introducing his friend and colleague, former Congressman George Hansen: "If only one thing could be done, it would be to get rid of the IRS. The IRS has been the major violator of civil and individual rights."

Hansen himself described his ordeal with that agency: how he was taken in handcuffs by federal agents and spirited away on a plane to a prison in Omaha where neither his wife nor lawyer would know where he was. "If they can do that to a Congressman, what can they do to the little guy doesn't have any power or influence?" he asked his audience.

In his banquet address, vice-presidential candidate Andre Marrou stressed the need for organizing "down to the precinct level," and getting legislators elected. "Ask yourself, how many libertarians have you brought into the Party today, this week? This month?" he challenged.

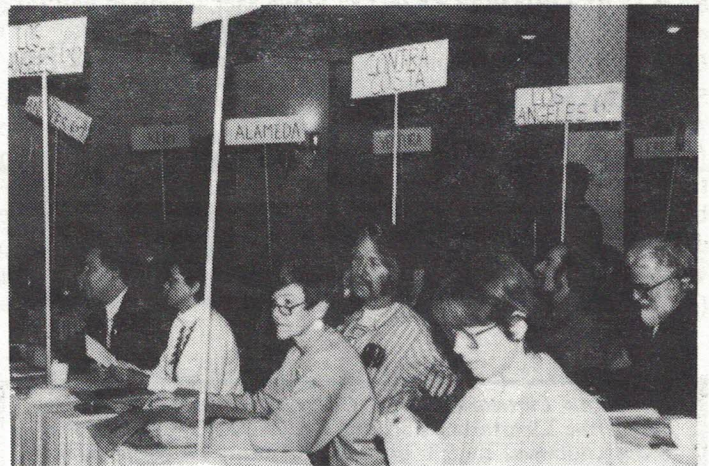
In a similar spirit Ron Paul observed, "The gala is over, and 1988 gives us an opportunity to present something to the American people." He emphasized the importance of being invited on the presidential debates. (Write programs like Phil Donahue urging that Ron Paul appear as a guest). "After all, how many more opportunities will we have? If we don't do

well, we're in big trouble. The country needs us. The message of freedom can't get out without your help."

The local press was present, with coverage running from snide to sympathetic. Definitely in the latter category was an interview with Ron Paul that appeared in the *San Diego Tribune*. Very straightforward and thorough.

★ **\$13,000 Raised:** At the Sunday Night Banquet Ed Clark set a fundraising goal of \$10,000 for Ballot Access. But when the pledges and checks were counted, the mark was exceeded by \$3,000!

★ **Officers Elected:** Several new officers were elected for the coming year. Ted Brown, chair of Region 64, won his bid for state chair, taking over that position from Mark Hinkle. Butte County chair Mark Sweany and Kim Goldsworthy, former chair of Region 63, were elected northern and southern vice-



chairs, respectively. Cullene Lang will continue as secretary, while Dave Maxwell is our new treasurer, replacing Thea McLean in that office.

CLNews wishes great success to all the officers in the months ahead, and offers many thanks for a job well done to Mark Hinkle; Tom Olson and Melinda Pillsbury-Foster, northern and southern vice-chairs; and Thea McLean.

★ **Karl Brey Award:** a Convention highlight is the Samuel Adams Society Luncheon and the presentation of the Karl Brey Award, which honors its recipient for outstanding activism in the cause of liberty. This year the coveted award went

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News and Events from the Regions

Membership Shaping Up

Some time ago, San Diego County vowed to overtake the largest region in the state, Santa Clara County, and has finally done it. They've worked hard and now have 252 members! They're sure doing something right.

Several other regions are trying to catch up to San Diego, so membership is up all over the state: 1,552 members, the highest in several years. Here's the breakdown of those regions with over 100 members: San Diego, 252; Santa Clara, 232; Region 62 (Santa Monica, West L.A.), 141; Golden Gate (San Francisco/Marin County), 115; Region 61 (San Fernando Valley), 104; and Orange County, 102.

That's the good news. The bad news is that it could be all for naught. These figures are year-end totals. Several hundred of those in the 1,552 have not renewed their memberships (they were sent notices earlier this year), and could be dropped from the roles.

To prevent that happening, *CLNews* is stamping those about to lapse with a notification that this is their last issue, and secretary Cullene Lang is sending a list of "expirees" to all regional chairs. They should begin contacting those who are straying from the fold.

Here and There

INYO COUNTY: William Baucum, from the town of Independence, is the new chair of Inyo County. Bill is not only setting up a party organization, but is running for the 34th Assembly District, and will also serve as the Paul for President coordinator for the area. His address: P.O. Box 65, Independence, 93526; tele: (619) 878-2288.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY: Steve McClenathan will take over the chairmanship from Clyde Steele. Address: 777 Chorro St., #3, San Luis Obispo, 93406; tele: (805) 544-1306.

SAN FRANCISCO: George Meyer is running for State Assembly, 16th District, in the April 12 special election. Up for grabs is the seat vacated by Art Agnos (D) when he won the mayoralty race. George plans to run an active, highly visible campaign. He's already been invited to participate in the debate sponsored by the League of Women Voters. To volunteer to help, or for more information, contact George at (415) 552-0838.

California Libertarian News (CLNews) is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions and articles contained therein do not necessarily represent official Party positions unless so indicated.

Please send regional news, calendar items, photos, non-member subscriptions (see below), and other material to:

Sarah E. Foster, Editor
777 Terrace 49
Los Angeles, CA 90042
(213) 259-9580

Subscription and Advertising Rates: Non-member subscriptions to *CLNews* are available for \$15 per year, bulk mail. Checks should be made payable to the LPC. Subscriptions are included as a membership benefit when you join the Libertarian Party of California (see membership form on page five). For advertising rates and specifications, contact Sarah Foster.

April 15 Candidates Showcase

John Vernon

Over the years that we have participated in tax protests on April 15, we have devised many clever and humorous presentations to grab the attention of the media and other taxpayers. So much so, that it's my impression the media have come to anticipate April 15, in Los Angeles at least, with the expectation, "Well, what amusing things are the Libertarians going to come up with this year? Will Lady Godiva appear again?" Unfortunately, I believe they have also come to give Lady Godiva about as much credence as they now pay Gary Hart. It's time to change the level of the discussion and let the media — as well as the thousands of voters who will be driving by the mail boxes on April 15 — know that the LP is engaged in serious politics and that we really mean to change the politics of America.

In Los Angeles, we plan to focus the tax protests on our candidates. After all, what better time to let the public know the names of candidates who are really committed to reducing — and ultimately eliminating — taxes. There are six major post offices in L.A. County that serve as distribution centers for the Postal Service and these will be open until midnight on April 15 to accept tax returns. At each of them, cars will be lined up for a mile or more, inching toward the goal of beating the clock.

Our volunteers will be on hand to take advantage of the opportunity with campaign flyers from the Ron Paul campaign, as well as campaign literature from candidates who are running in each particular area. In L.A. County, we anticipate passing out between 30,000 and 50,000 pieces of libertarian literature. The same process should be duplicated in the other 59 regions around California.

Now is the time to raise money for candidates' literature, not after the June 7 primary. Now is the time to elevate the visibility of Libertarian candidates, not after the old parties have chosen theirs. We can reasonably expect that the candidates of other parties are not going to be protesting income taxes on April 15. The show is ours and we should — particularly in this election year — seize the opportunity to let the American people know that we not only object to taxes, but that we have some candidates who, if elected, will do something about reducing them.

John Vernon is chair of Region 61, and is coordinating the tax protest demonstrations for L.A. County.

Libertarian Hikes

Los Angeles: Sunday, Mar. 20, 9:45 a.m.; Sullivan Canyon West Ride. Spectacular views of Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. Planned this for January, but were rained out. We'll try again. Contact Alan Pendleton, (213) 392-2181, or Ed Ogawa, (805) 373-2483.

Bay Area: Saturday, Mar. 12; 10:00 a.m.; Mt. Tamalpais watershed area. Contact: Lloyd Licher, (415) 472-3294.

San Diego: Saturday, Mar. 26, 9:45 a.m.; the west half of Penasquitos Canyon. Destination, the rocky waterfall area. Total round trip is six miles. Contact: Sara Baase, (619) 460-9136.

• **Important Disclaimer:** These hikes are not officially sponsored activities of the Libertarian Party. Each person's safety is his or her own responsibility. Watch your step and the poison oak.

On the Campaign Trail with Andre Marrou

Our peripatetic vice-presidential candidate Andre Marrou visited the San Francisco Bay area, Jan. 20-25. This is a brief account of his visit.

On Wednesday, Jan. 20, Andre was greeted at the San Jose "International" Airport by Tom Grey, 12th Cong. Dist. candidate, and Scott Lieberman. That afternoon he was interviewed by KSCO-AM radio (by telephone) and the San Jose *Mercury News* editorial board. In the evening, he taped a 90-minute radio show for KFJC-FM.

Next morning, there was an interview with a reporter from KKSF-FM; the afternoon was spent "schmoozing" with San Francisco LP chair Jim Peron at Free Forum Books; then interviewed again, by Ruby Petersen, from midnight till 2:00 a.m. on KCBS radio.

On Friday morning — more interviewing: this time with the *Bay Area Reporter*, a prominent gay publication.

Saturday began in Santa Cruz with a 90-minute interview with *The Sun*, a political weekly; then an impromptu interview with *City on the Hill*, campus newspaper of U.C. Santa Cruz. Saturday evening saw him at the banquet of the Santa Clara County LP convention, where he raised a record \$1,300 for his campaign, (funded separately from the Ron Paul campaign).

On Sunday the candidate met informally with Stanford University students, and followed with another 90-minute interview with the *Stanford Daily*. This undoubtedly increased interest in Ron Paul's visit on Feb. 11. That evening, Andre was featured speaker at a dinner in San Francisco held for Leon Louw, co author of the highly influential, basically libertarian book *After Apartheid, the Solution for South Africa*.

Monday, the final day began with a telephone interview for KNZA-AM. A noon press conference in Salinas was attended by the *Monterey Herald*; KAZU-FM, non-commercial, non-NPR station; and KMST-TV. The latter station (we think) aired a segment of their newscast just before the President's

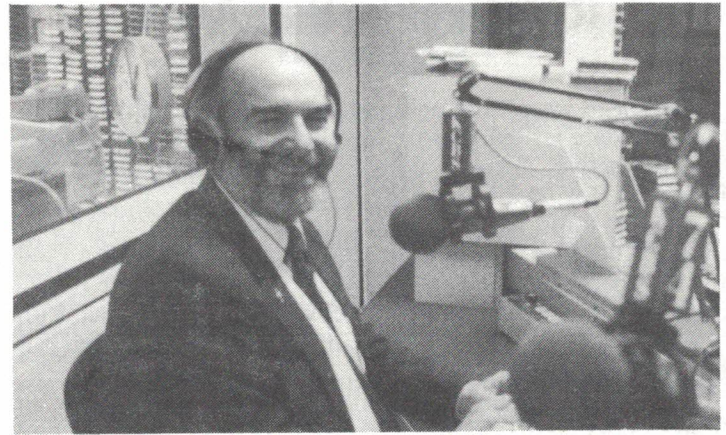


Photo by Scott Lieberman

State of the Union Address. The last event of the tour was an interview with the *Watsonville Register-Pajaronian*.

• Aftermath (by Scott Liberman):

On the whole, Andre Marrou's visit was pretty successful. Although we only got one TV interview, I talked with a few assignment editors at local TV stations, and possibly they will look at Libertarians with more favor next time around. The KCBS talk show, even though it was in the wee hours of Friday morning, got a lot of good response, and Andre told me that out of 13 calls actually made it on the air, only one could be classified as negative. I think this means that our message is fine, it's just a matter of changing the LP from a little known political party that surfaces once every four years into a force that actually wins elections

This article is adapted from one in the *Santa Clara Libertarian* (February), incorporating notes made by Scott Lieberman, publicity chair of the Santa Clara County LP.

Coordinators Needed for Presidential Campaign

For several months Bruce Daniel, State Coordinator for the Ron Paul for President Committee, has been putting together a network of local coordinators. These persons will handle local arrangements for Ron when he comes to an area, serve as the media contact, and coordinate literature distribution. Over 40 coordinators are now signed on board, but more are needed. There's a lot of work to do.

The following is a partial list of coordinators as of mid-February. *CLNews* will publish the rest of the list, plus any additions, in the April issue. To volunteer, contact Bruce at (916) 663-2568.

Tehama/Butte Counties

Dr. Harry Pendery(916) 873-4302
6470 Pentz Rd, Paradise, 95969

Shasta County (temporary)

Vince Carlton(916) 223-4123
900 Canby Ave., Redding, 96003

Central Valley (Shasta County)

Martin & Ann Kern(916) 275-6382
3929 La Mesa, Central Valley, 96019

Humboldt County

Daniel Mosier(707) 822-7804
Box 428, Bayside, 95523

Nevada County

Dr. Jim Hosbein(916) 273-9147
123 Margeret Lane, B-2; Grass Valley, 95945

Placer County

Fred Colburn(916) 878-1831
Box 477, Meadow Vista, 95722

Loomis

Claire Painter(916) 652-7126
780 Wayland Dr., Loomis, 95650

Alta/Dutch Flat/Baxter

Richard Harmon(916) 389-2466
Box 743, Alta, 95701

Tahoe Basin

Dennis Schlumpf(916) 525-6202
Box 743, Tahoe City, 95730

Sacramento County

Lawrence Murray(916) 348-3081
4149 Cornelia Way, N. Highlands, 95660

City of Sacramento

Leonard Duck(916) 927-7522
909 Commons Dr., Sacramento, 95825

Carmichael/Tax Patriots of Sacramento

Mel Harris(916) 485-9484
2671 Louisiana, Sacramento, 95821

San Francisco County

Erin Kennedy(415) 864-0952
41 Sutter, No. 100; San Francisco

San Joaquin County

Ned Leiba(209) 948-9119
305 N. El Dorado, Stockton, 95202

Stanislaus County

Steve Gerringer(209) 529-0893
2115 Celeste Dr., Modesto, 95355

Lake/Mendocino/and Napa Counties

Randall Grindle(707) 994-4817
Box 684, Lower Lake, 95457

Sonoma County

Zagros Madjd-Sadjadi(707) 762-3492
120 Round Ct., Petaluma, 94952

Marin County

Howard Creighton(415) 457-8117
168 Palm Ave., San Rafael, 94901

Castro Valley (Alameda County)

Michael McCarthy(415) 881-5846
18483 Clifton Wy., Castro Valley, 94546

Santa Clara County

Bob Bickford(415) 656-0719
4800 Omar St., No. 3; Fremont, 94538

San Jose

Scott Lieberman(408) 379-6185
3200 Payne Ave., Apt. 714; San Jose, 95117

Mountain View

Chuck Seberg(415) 965-6947
1354 Dale Ave., Mountain View, 94040

Sunnyvale

Joann Stevenson(408) 245-5755
720-J Quetta, Sunnyvale, 94087

Monterey County

Robert Ratto(408) 754-1632
246 Main St., Salinas, 93901

Calaveras County

Tom Tryon(209) 736-4845
Box 1177, Angels Camp, 95222

Santa Cruz County

Bill Anderson(408) 476-9753
726 Gilroy Dr., Capitola, 95010

Madera County

Jerome Dunncliff(209) 683-5652
50286 Barcus Cir., Coarsegold, 93614

Ron Paul in Bay Area

Scott Lieberman

San Diego wasn't the only part of California our presidential candidate visited. Before travelling south he spent a brief but productive, virtually non-stop, 20-hour visit to the San Francisco Bay area. Here are the details.

At 11:45 a.m., Ron was picked up at San Francisco Airport by Bob Bickford, Santa Clara coordinator for the Ron Paul for President Committee (RPPC) and myself, San Jose RPPC coordinator. Just half an hour later we were having lunch with Jim Peron, Golden Gate LP Chair, and Richard Winger, LP ballot access maven.

Ron was on the Jim Eason talk show on KGO radio for an hour (2:00-3:00 p.m.). Ron and Eason hit it off very well, and Eason gave an excellent introduction in which he pointed out, "Unlike some of these minor candidates you've been hearing about — like Haig and Simon — this man *will* be on your ballot in November." Most of the callers to the show were at least mildly positive, although we weren't sure about the guy who asked for Ron's opinion on whether the military-industrial complex had anything to do with John Kennedy's assassination.

At 4:00 p.m. Ron was at U.C. Berkeley, through the sponsorship of the Ayn Rand Society. About 30 people were present — which wasn't too bad considering this was a *very* last minute engagement.

At 7:00 p.m., with only two display ads in the *Stanford Daily* and a few flyers, Ron attracted over 130 people to hear him speak at Stanford University. He was introduced by Tom Bethel of the Hoover Institution. Lots of potential volunteers were signed up.

Next stop that evening, San Mateo, where he addressed a reception at the Villa Hotel.

Ron flew early Friday morning to Los Angeles to be interviewed on the Michael Jackson Show, 10:00 a.m. till noon. From there, it was on to San Diego.

Afterthoughts: Yes, Ron had a very busy 20 hours in the Bay Area. He was able to demonstrate that he not only knows the libertarian philosophy backwards and forward, but is absolutely magnificent at deflecting hostile questions and showing that libertarians are caring, compassionate people.

Unfortunately, media coverage of his speeches was almost non-existent, but that has been a problem in the San Francisco Bay area. As publicity chair of Santa Clara County, I have a few ideas which I'm pursuing with the RPP Committee in Houston to break through the media threshold level. If we can get national name recognition, Ron's vote total in November could be higher than any of us dare hope.

Freedom Trail Offered

The Ron Paul Campaign puts out a monthly report, *Freedom Trail*, that tells where Ron was, is, and will be speaking — plus other news to keep you up-to-date. It is also used to alert the troops when special action is necessary — like getting letters *en masse* to Buckley, Donahue, etc.

Editor Kevin Southwick invites all Libertarians to ask to be put on the mailing list. It's free, just send your name and address to Ron Paul for President; 1120 Nasa Rd., Suite 104; Houston, TX 77058. Tele: (713) 3333-1988. You'll also receive notices of fundraising efforts for the Paul campaign, but your name will not be used for any other solicitations.



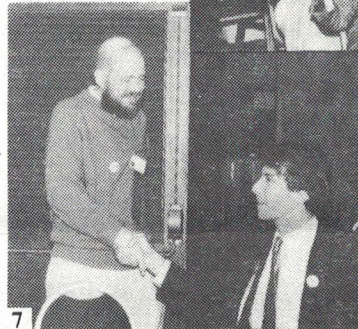
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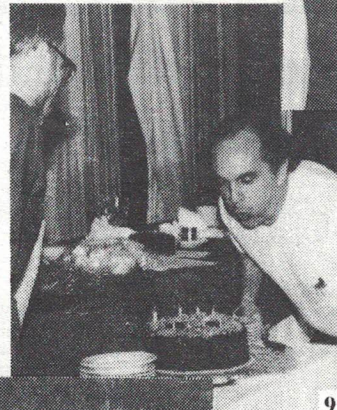
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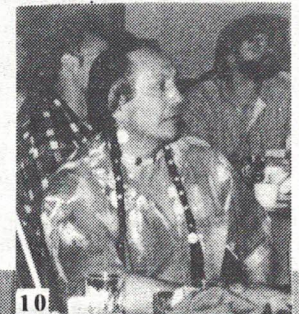
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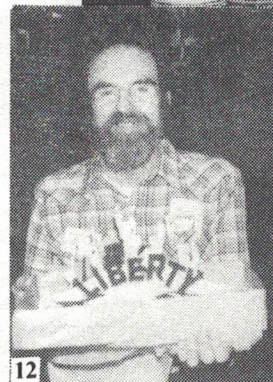
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From the Chair

Ted Brown

1988 will be an exciting year for the Libertarian Party of California, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who elected me to serve as state chair. I hope that those people who supported the other candidates will continue to be active in the LPC, and I welcome their continued participation in our common struggle for freedom in our time.

As in any change of administration there will be some continuity and some changes. Effective committee chairs are very important to our growth and efficient management. Outgoing state chair Mark Hinkle will head the Fundraising Committee, secretary Cullene Lang will chair the Membership Committee, Lyn Sapowky-Smith will take over the Contract Services/Management Committee, and treasurer Dave Maxwell will serve as chair of the Budget Committee. Continuing in their positions will be George O'Brien of the Strategy Committee and Jack Dean of the Legal Committee. The state Executive Committee has created a new committee to study reorganization of the party. This group will select its own chair.

The only major committee without a chair is Campus Outreach. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer for this very important position. Also, please let me know if you would like to serve on any of the above-mentioned committees.

An important goal of my administration is continued efficiency of our data base and inquiry processing as we enter a very busy period. A decision will be made soon regarding the duties and identities of our administrative staff.

A major pledge of my campaign was an open administration where all reasonable voices can be heard in the management of party affairs. I urge any of you interested members to call me with your suggestion. My home number is (213) 257-8922, and my office number is (800) 345-7244. Let me know anything that's on your mind.

This column will be a regular feature in *CLNews*, which will continue to be edited by Sarah Foster. Stay tuned for more communications from me on party activities.

Photo Captions

1. Ron Paul autographs the campaign book, *Freedom Under Siege*, for Alicia Clark.
2. Sunday night banquet: Ron Paul chats with 1984 presidential candidate David Bergland (r) and Steve Alexander, Santa Clara County chair (l).
3. Marshall Fritz listens while LP founder David Nolan explains new version of his "Nolan Chart" (the "Fritz Chart") at the Marshall Fritz Roast, Saturday evening.
4. A local cheering section at the Sunday night banquet.
5. Ron Paul (l) listens to his good friend and former Congressman George Hansen.
6. Ron Paul and northern vice-chair Mark Sweany (r).
7. Bob Lehman (l), activist and 1986 winner of Karl Bray Award, and newly elected chair Ted Brown (r).
8. Karl Bray Award winner Richard Winger, with Bruce Lagasse (l), the originator of the award and 1980 winner Jack Dean (r).
9. Chocolate Caucus charter member Bill White blows out candles on the Tenth Anniversary cake. (chocolate, of course).
10. Russell Means, co-founder of the American Indian Movement and presidential nomination candidate in 1987.
11. National LP chair Jim Turney (l) with San Diego County chair Pat Wright at Sunday night banquet.
12. Hugh McLean, winner of chocolate trophy at the Chocolate Caucus party.
13. Candidate debate for chair: (l-r) Ted Brown, Mark Sweany, Melinda Pillsbury-Foster, and moderator Mike Holmes.
14. Up and away for Ron Paul: former state chairs Jack Sanders (l) and Bruce Lagasse (r).



We're Running Out of Time

Kathy Hamilton

The story of Karen Thompson and Sharon Kowalski reads like a script for an awful 'B' movie. You hope that such things will never happen to you, but you know in your heart they could.

In 1983, Sharon Kowalski (of Clear Lake, MN) was severely injured in a traffic accident. She was in a coma for many weeks and suffered paralysis and brain-stem injury. Her lover Karen Thompson, a physical education instructor with a background in occupational therapy, spent eight to ten hours a day talking to Sharon. Sharon eventually awoke from the coma and began to respond. With Karen's patient encouragement, she was soon able to feed herself, comb her hair, do math problems, and communicate, at first with hand signals, then with the aid of an electric typewriter.

When Sharon's parents discovered their daughter's relationship with Karen, however, they took steps to remove Sharon from Karen's influence. Sharon's father won legal guardianship of Sharon and removed her to a nursing home.

Now, Karen is forbidden to see Sharon on the grounds that she might "sexually abuse" her. The nursing home has taken away Sharon's typewriter and is feeding her through a tube instead of allowing her to feed herself. She is clothed in diapers and is not taken to the bathroom. The doctors report that she is severely depressed and sleeps in a fetal position almost the entire day. The last thing Sharon typed to Karen before Karen was barred from seeing her was, "Help me. Get me out of here." Karen has not seen Sharon for more than a year. (Since August, 1985)

Karen Thompson has spent the years since the accident engaged in a continuing legal battle to try to get Sharon the help she needs to recover. Sharon's parents insist that she is a "vegetable" and make no effort to obtain therapy or training on her behalf. Although required by law, Sharon has never had a competency hearing in court, and her court appointed lawyer has been prevented from seeing her. "We're running

out of time," Karen explains. "Every day she's there, we're condemning her. . . I think sooner or later they'll rule in our favor, but not in time for Sharon. . ."

This account (slightly abridged where indicated) is reprinted with permission from the newsletter of the Southern California Women for Understanding (SCWU), April-May, 1987. It should be pointed out that the two women had been lovers for four years at the time of the accident, had exchanged rings and purchased a house in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

The Minnesota Civil Liberties Union has been assisting Karen in her legal battle to gain custody, and SCWU has also voted support. Joining them is the Libertarian Party of California. Gary Meade, libertarian attorney, wrote the resolution below, which was unanimously endorsed by the ExCom at the meeting following the Convention.

Needless to say Karen's legal costs are considerable; she owes at least \$70,000. To help, send donations directly to Karen Thompson (checks should be made payable to the Karen Thompson Legal Fund), 10599 44th St., Clear Lake, MN 55319.

For more information, you can contact Karen (612) 743-3305, or Jean Conger at SCWU, (213) 274-1086.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Resolution of Support for Karen Thompson:

Whereas, gay and lesbian relationships are not legally recognized; and

Whereas, this lack of legal recognition allows parents and other family members to obtain exclusive custody of adult gay men and lesbians when incapacitated; and

Whereas, this is nothing less than the granting of a legal monopoly and control over the person of an adult human being; and

Whereas, Sharon Kowalski is a victim of this policy;

Therefore we, the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of California, call for the end to all laws which establish a conclusive right to custody of adults declared mentally incompetent and/or medically incapacitated to the exclusion of their freely selected loved ones; and

We further condemn the State of Minnesota and its officials for preventing Karen Thompson from reestablishing her relationship with Sharon Kowalski and her moral right to care for her.

Convention

from page one

to Richard Winger of the Ballot Access Committee. Award originator Bruce Lagasse cited Richard's unceasing efforts to get the Libertarian Party on the ballot in every state. Where would the Party be without Richard? Libertarians everywhere owe him a debt of gratitude.

★ **Resolutions Passed:** A resolution supporting the Gun Ownership ballot initiative was passed by the Convention. The Executive Committee passed one of support for Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson, and one endorsing an effort by Steve Malmberg to put None-of-the-Above as an option on local ballots.

A Note from Dave Bergland

At the recent Convention, Dave sold about 25 tapes of "Libertarianism in 30 Seconds," which he's found out were improperly duplicated by the recording company. There's quite a bit missing from the second side, and Dave wants to replace these.

To exchange, send your defective one to Orpheus Productions, 1773 Bahama Place, Costa Mesa, 92626. Telephone: (714) 751-8980 for more information.

Pledging Made Easy

Treasurer Dave Maxwell has arranged to have the LPC listed as a payee for our pledge program in Bank of America's Home Banking Program (banking by computer). Monthly pledgers who are using BOA's Home Banking System will need to use our payee number (11886), their name and region number. For further information, contact Dave at (408) 946-9200.

Candidates Workshop Scheduled

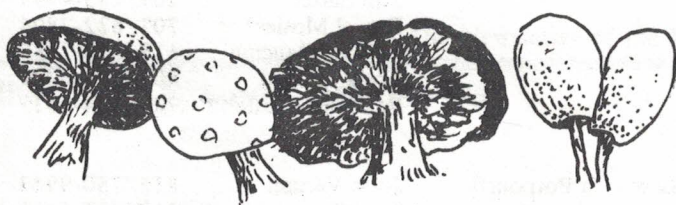
Mark your calendar for April 23, when David Bergland and Dick Boddie will conduct an all-day campaign workshop in the L.A./Orange County area for candidates and activists. Similar workshops, in the following months, are planned for other parts of the state.

It's a chance to learn about contacting the media, how to present our ideas, how to fundraise (Dick Boddie's a master of the art of fundraising), how to deflect hostile questions, get out the vote, and so on. Don't miss this great opportunity. More information next month, or contact John Vernon, (818) 780-9943.

Eye on Sacramento

The Deadliest Fungus, Part II

Steve Pencall



In the Nov. *CLNews*, Steve Pencall wrote an article alerting libertarians to a newly proposed agency whose job would be to certify and monitor the sale of wild mushrooms. Steve, who is an amateur mycologist (one who studies mushrooms) and a council member of the Los Angeles Mycological Society, personally protested the formation of yet another unnecessary government bureau. In the piece below he brings us up to date on the situation. — Editor

It is not often that libertarians are presented with the opportunity to deal a killing blow to a new bureaucracy before it even prints stationary. However, just such an opportunity is at hand if we act quickly. Sadly, the bureaucracy is not the Franchise Tax Board, but rather — would your believe — the Mushroom Advisory Committee (MAC). The MAC is the brainchild of state and local health bureaucrats who fear that imminent disaster looms because wild mushrooms are being sold in gourmet markets and elite restaurants without having first been “certified” by “certified wild mushroom specialists.”

The proposal does not address eating mushrooms they have collected themselves, or which were given to them by friends and relatives. Two recent near-fatal poisonings in Oakland followed this same pattern. On the other hand, edible wild mushrooms have been a common item of commerce for over ten years and not a single serious poisoning has occurred. Nonetheless, a nine-member advisory committee is proposed to deal with this nonexistent “threat.” Moreover, “the advisory committee is not required to conduct meetings open to the public in accordance with Article 9 of Title 2 of the Government Code.” Get the picture?

Certification fees for “wild mushroom specialists” are expected to generate less than \$5,000 per while the cost of operating the program and the advisory committee required to oversee it could run in excess of \$30,000. Guess who will make up the difference?

Libertarians who are appalled at the needless intrusion of government into voluntary transactions and the resultant utter waste of tax dollars would call or write one of the officials below.

Trevor Hays
Environmental Health Services
2220 Moorpark Ave., Rm. 100
San Jose, 95128
(408) 299-6060

Kenneth W. Kizer, M.D.,
Director, Dept. of Health Services
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Warren Crawford
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Berkeley, 94704
(415) 540-2160



For more information, contact Steve at 13636 Mulberry Dr., Whittier, 90605.

LPC Directory

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Northern Vice-Chair, Mark Sweany
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Southern Vice-Chair, Kim Goldsworthy
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1526 Cartagena St., Long Beach, 90807 (213) 595-6266

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of California

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LOCAL EVENTS AND CONTACTS

COUNTY	DATE	EVENTS	CHAIR or CONTACT*	P H O N E
Alameda	Thu., Mar. 10	Program to be Announced	Mike Tejada	415/531-0760
Butte			Mark Sweany	916/345-9970
Contra Costa	Tue., Mar. 8	Roger Barker: The Tax Patriot Movement	John Corl	415/223-4112
Fresno			Tim Salzer	209/233-4393
Humboldt			Daniel Mosier*	707/822-7804
Inyo			William Baucum	619/878-2288
Kern			Craig Gifford	805/832-6231
Lake			Randall Grindle	707/994-4817
Los Angeles County (Regions 61-67)				
-61, San Fernando Valley	Wed., Mar. 9	Doug Thorburn: The Revised Tax Law — a Potpourri	John Vernon	818/780-9943
-62, West L.A.	Thu., Mar. 17	Sarah Foster: Redevelopment in Santa Monica	Neal Donner	213/477-6462
-63, Foothills	Tue., Mar. 15	John Dentinger: Lie Down with Conservatives, Get Up with Sleaze	Waheed Bactor	213/227-6314
-64, Central L.A.	Thu., Mar. 10	Robert Risley: The Humane Death Initiative/Elections	Ted Brown	213/257-8922
-65, Downey		Call County Chair for Program Information	Lee Connelly	714/994-3256
-66, South Bay	Thu., Mar. 10	Election of Officers	Sam Treynor	213/546-2846
-67, East San Gabriel Valley			Gail Lightfoot	714/623-5067
Marin	Wed. Mar. 2	David Theroux: <i>Who</i> is the State?	Dan Dougherty*	415/457-1411
Monterey			Bob Ratto	408/424-9346
Orange	Thu. Mar. 17	Call County Chair for Program Information	Lee Connelly	714/994-3256
		Ken Grubbs: Life in Washington D.C. (Liberty Forum Supper Club)	Jack Dean*	714/871-0371
Placer			Charles Carr	916/652-4801
Riverside/San Bernardino Counties			Ron Holman	714/684-5218
Sacramento			Roger Pope	916/921-1776
San Diego	Tue., Mar. 15	Mike Darwin: The Right to Die — and Come Back Again	Pat Wright	619/295-9510
	Tue., Mar. 22	Business Meeting	Pat Wright	619/295-9510
San Diego (No. Co.)	Wed., Mar. 30	John Boston: The Home Schooling Option	Pat King*	(619)433/7252
San Francisco/Marin Counties				
	Wed., Mar. 9	Video: Norma Jean on <i>60 Minutes</i>	Jim Peron	415/864-0952
	Sat., Mar. 12	Richard Winger: Government vs. Democracy (Free Exchange)	George O'Brien*	415/731-3031
San Luis Obispo			Steve McClenathan	805/544-1306
San Mateo			Lyn Sapowsky	415/368-8148
Santa Barbara	Sun., Mar. 13	Spa, Pool and Pizza Party	B.J. Wagener*	805/925-7088
Santa Clara	Wed., Mar. 30	Business Meeting	Steve Alexander	408/554-1119
Santa Cruz			Bill Anderson	408/476-9753
Solano			Mark Moberg	707/864-1673
Sonoma			Jim Oglesby	707/823-5261
Tulare			Vicky Daley	209/688-4159
Ventura	Tue., Mar. 8	Dinner Gathering at Carrows Restaurant	George Hasara	805/525-6321
Yolo			Bryce Bigwood*	916/758-2346

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: SATURDAY, MARCH 19

California Libertarian News

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